

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 02235 250910Z  
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 SCA-01 DHA-05 SY-05

NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PPT-01 FBIE-00 /052 W

-----048258 250920Z /17

R 241240Z AUG 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6600

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 2235

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SREF, RH

SUBJECT: AMCITS IN RHODESIAN MILITARY

1. AUGUST 23 JOHANNESBURG STAR CARRIED PICTURE OF AND ARTICLE RE STEPHEN DREVITTS, AMCIT, WHO RECENTLY ARRIVED IN CITY AFTER GOING AWAOL FROM RHODESIAN ARMY.

2. DREVITTS ESTIMATES THERE ABOUT ONE THOUSAND AMCITS FIGHTING IN RHODESIA, AND THAT MANY OF THESE BECOMING "BORED AND DISILLUSIONED" WITH BUSH WAR DUE TO LACK OF ACTION. ACCORDING TO DREVITTS, FIVE PERCENT OF THESE HAVE DESERTED. DREVITTS DOES NOT THINK THE TERM MERCENARY IS AN APPROPRIATE LABLE FOR AMERICANS FIGHTING IN RHODESIA BECAUSE "NO ONE COULD GET RICH ON WHAT THE RHODESIANS PAY." HE STATES THAT MOST ARE "LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE AND STOPPING THE MARCH OF COMMUNISM AT THE SAME TIME."

3. COMMENT: DREVITTS' STATEMENTS ABOUT BOREDOM, DISILLUSIONMENT, AND DESERTION ARE NO DOUBT TRUE, AS INCREASING NUMBER OF DESERTERS BEGINNING TO SHOW UP HERE. OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO POST IS POTENTIAL WELFARE PROBLEMS THEY MIGHT PRESENT

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IF EXODUS CONTINUES AND/OR ESCALATES.

JOHNSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MERCENARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977JOHANN02235  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770307-0078  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 65aaade55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** CASC, SREF, RH, US  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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